



GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

March 1, 2018

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 168 towns and cities.

SB 473 AAC The State Contracting Standards Review Board

CCM **Opposes** SB 473.

SB 473 would among other things expand the full time staffing of the State Contracting Standards Board and expand the authority of that board to oversee contracting and procurement processes by state quasi-public agencies and municipal governments.

CCM and its member towns and cities view this proposed bill as an over reach and unwarranted intrusion into how local governments are run, especially by granting the State Contracting Board broad authority over the process by which towns and cities spend local tax dollars. This bill would seemingly attempt to create a uniform procurement and contracting process for Connecticut's 169 towns and cities and will conflict with local town and city charters.

Additionally, this bill would impose numerous unfunded mandates upon towns and cities through the adoption and requirement for training on ethics, procurement procedures, requirements for the hiring of additional positions to meet the requirements of this bill.

This bill would allow the State Contracting Standards board to have overly broad control over local contracting procedures and will add cost and burdensome regulatory and administrative procedures to our local government.

Furthermore, CCM does have concerns over the impact this proposed legislation would have on the state's established quasi-public agencies and the projects that they are working on collaboratively with local governments. The unintended consequence of this may bill may result in additional costs and delays to housing and economic development projects, and to the expansion and improvements to local and regional transportation initiatives.

CCM urges the Committee to oppose SB 473.

If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Advocacy Manager of CCM at rcollins@ccm-ct.org or (860) 707-6446.